Farmer Asks A Question.

He knows that there is something wrong somewhere, and is trying to locate the trouble. He comes to Benton and discovers a janitor at the court house, which he considers a case of extravagance.

The KICKER is pleased to see Mr. Edmunds, or any other farmer, take sufficient interest in public affairs to ask questions, and we shall answer questions, where information is wanted, to the best of our ability. But Mr. Edmunds did not discover any part of the "leak" when he discovered the janitor at the court house. The "leak" is higher up.

The court house belongs to the people of Scott county. The square is enclosed by an iron fence, and blue grass covers the ground. Beautiful shade trees cover the square and a public well and water-trough are also there. A water closet with modern sewerage is also on the square, and if the county court did not provide someone to look after these things, our magnificent square would soon have a desolate appearance. It is true that the janitor provides wood and cleans up for the officials, but the officials pay him extra for this. The janitor receives \$240 a year from the county-not even a "drop in the bucket."

Now, let us examine some of the real "leaks" that take from Mr. Edmunds and every other tiller of the soil a liberal share of his earnings. Take, for instance, the one million dollars of the people's money approprinted by our last legislature to the St. Louis World's Fair for the use of D. R. Francis and other promoters! Take, for matance, the appropr of thousands upon thousands of dollars of the people's money at every session of the legislature for the use and support of the State Normal schools, which only the children of the well-to-do can afford to attend! Take, for instance, the thousands upon thousands of dollars appropriated at every session of the legislature for the use and benefit of the National Guards of Missouri-as useless as potato bugs. Take your excise commissioner of St. Louis—Jim Scibert— \$12,000 a year and trimmings-only an ornament to hold the saloon ele ment of St. Louis in line for the "grand old Democratic party." Any citizen who visited St. Louis prior to the November election, 1900, could see Dockery's life-size picture behind every bar in the city, and if he was there just before the April election in 1901 he could see instead the picture of Rolla Wells! Then you have three railroad commissioners at a salary of \$3,000 a year and expenses eachand for what?

Great guns! We could write a book an army of several hundred "clerks" the ticket straigh. "Boards" and have not only paid the \$1,000, but "commissioners" and "trustees" of his salary and EXPENSES! every description are created for no other purpose than to give support house, Mr. Edmunds. He earns every to a gang of hangers-on who have no dollar he gets, and the county gets legitimate way of making a living. full value for its money. You will These members of the "boards," have to go higher—among the high-"trustees" and "commissioners," receive a certain amount for their services and EXPENSES. They ride on free passes and charge the railroad fare up to the tax-payers. They go to the saloon and eat free lunches

Veiled Sarcasm.

Mrs. Wedderly: I wonder why it is that single men are always the most ahxious to go to war?

Wedderly: I suppose it's because they don't know what war really is.—
Chicago News.

The Three Who Get Them.

He: I wish I were a baby, a nava ero or a prise fighter. She: Why? He: Then instead of shying away

railway from St. Louis to Lamar and return, along about April 3, 1897?"

"A.—I don't recall this particu-lar lustance."
"Q.—Then Mr. Pugh did not

come down here on any business connected with the labor commis-sioner's office at that time or about that time?"

"A .- I am unable to state.

"Q.—Did you not present a bill to the auditor of the state of Missouri for transportation over the Missouri Pacific for T. S. Pugh, from St. Louis to Lamar, for the sum of \$18, dating the charge April 3, 1897, and have the same allowed and receive the money

"A.-I may have done so. If I did, it was for the money, or advertising in the Leader, actually spent by me.

"Q.—I will ask you if it is not a fact that while at Lamar, Mo., in the month of June, 1897, you the month of June, 1897, you made up an expense account, as follows: Railway fare, \$7.50; hotel fare, \$12.50; street care fare, \$1.75; sleeping car fare, \$4; bus, \$1; telegrams, \$2.40, making a total of \$29.15, giving no date, time or place upon which or at which such items of expense were incurred, and, in fact, knowing that no such expense had been incurred by you, and that you wrote to M. V. Carroll, chief clerk in the labor commissioner's office, in the labor commissioner's office, closing said account and directing him to procure the allowance of the same, and making the fol-lowing statement in said letter: 'I think it lest to do this, as it might arouse an inquiry as to why no expense this mouth,' and if the same was not allowed to you and by you appropriated to

"A .- I don't remember any such letter, although I may have written it from here, inclosing an exthe month previously, but I am positive that no such statement as contained in the extract was made, or, if so, it has been gar-bled and its meaning purposely changed.

"Q.—Did you not write a letter, bearing date August 30, 1897, from Lamar, Mo., to M. V. Car-roll, chief clerk in the labor comroll, chief clerk in the labor commissioner's office, in which you used this language: 'I am going to be so devilish hard run this month that I believe you may make out a voucher for alary for Wm. Anderson for first half of March, \$62.50, and draw the amount and send to me by bank draft or registered letter. I believe this will be O. K. Anderson should be entitled to go on the pay roll from March 1st, and he having secured a good position can afford to make a campaign contribution'? contribution'?

"A .- I believe that I wrote some letter containing. in part, some such language as quoted, but the letter has evidently been garbled."

There you have it, Mr. Edmunds! From one of the gang under oath. Mr. Roselle was chairman of the Missouri Populists in 1896, and he testion the way the money of the people fied under oath that the Democrate is squandered. Every legislature has gave him \$1,000 to "sell out" the Populists. As a reward for his at an expense to the tax-payers of treachery he was made labor commis-\$3.50 per day each, and the only sloner of Missouri, and you haveeds, claim they have to their pay is that who have been letting "Bill Jones" they stuck to the party and voted do your voting and thinking for you,

> Never mind the janitor at the court collared gentlemen-to find the rascals who rob you of what is justly yours. And they do it "according to law"-for they make the laws for you. "Stick to the party" and "vote 'er straight."

As The Doctors See It.

Doctor: There is one peculiar thing about my peciession.

Lawyer: What's that?

Doctor: I often get \$2 for visiting a man whose life ian't worth 2 cents.

Chicago Daily News.

For BALE-A good farm of 199

Some Oran News.

Farmer Asks A Question.

Bework, Mo, Jan. 24, 1902.

Bewrork, Koraw:—Will you tell me who pays the feature of the court house.

Bewrork Kerries—Will you tell me who pays the feature of the court house if the the courty court, what authority have they court, what authority have they court, what authority have they been court house?

Mr. Edmunds is one of those hone of that wealth is his. He is now nearing the three score mark, has worked hard all his life, and yet has nothing to show for it. He lives in an humble home, his food is common and so are his clothes. He sees other me who perduce now eachth tilting in an humble home, his food is common and so are his clothes. He sees other me who perduce now eachth it light in common of the Honorable Arthur Romen who perduce now eachth it light in common of the Honorable Arthur Romen on the court house.

Some Oran News.

The Degree of Honor had a very the installation of officers; next, a specific missed with the light of the state of the light of t

band's stay.

We understand that a fine brick store building will soon be erected in Oran. We think the enterprise very worthy of imitation, and hope the

The Methodists began a series of meetings Sunday evening. The Rev. St. Louis for sometime, is home Mr. Manley, assisted by a preacher again. Miss Minnie says "there is from Olney, Ill., are conducting the no place like home."

The new drugstore has opened up with a nice line of goods, everything is up-to-date. This is quite an acquisition to our town.

The two brother-in-laws of R. F. Hollingshead are visiting here, with a view of locating where they can get good farm lands.

The child of J. D. Bowman suffered a relapse and is quite sick again. It is on the road to recovery, we learned today.

James Jolly has about recovered from a severe illness of several weeks luration.

Misses Ella Tomlinson and Anna Swain visited in Oran Saturday and Sunday.

Central Committee Meeting.

Chairman Frazer has authorized us to announce that a meeting of the

m., for the purpose of discussing the subjects arranged in the following

Song by Blodgett choir.

Invocation.

Address of welcome by Rev. Z. T.

Response by Prof. Duckworth How to make the teaching of History interesting—Prof. B. F. Stearns.
Discussion by Profs. D. W. Sullivan and John F. Wood.

The best method of teaching Spelling—Prof. Theo. Reed. Discussion by Profs. R. L. Buck and Jeff. Prim. Woman's value in the public school
-Miss Vivian Gladdish. Discussion by Miss Ara Finley and Miss Lydia

haney. Is a knowledge of Psychology nec-ssary to be successful in teaching— Prof. John Rapp. Discussion, l N. L. Atwood and J. K. Lumm All of the above subjects will be open for general discussion. Friends

meet with us. W. G. Atchison, Co. Com. Morley, Mo., Jan. 25, 1902.

At once and will pay the highest market price for same. Cash on delivery Corn and at Benton City Mills. Will pay 86c for No. 2 Wheat. C. C. DAMON, Proprietor.

Just Three Things.

"I once met a thoughtful scholar,"
says Bishop Wipple, "*ho told
me that he had read every book he
could which assailed the religion of
Jesus Christ, and he said he would
have become an infidel but for three

have become an infidel but for three things:

"First—I am a man. I am going somewhere. To-night I am a day nearer the grave than I was last night. I have all such books can tell me. They shed not one softary ray upon the darkness. They shall not take away the only guide and leave me stone-blind.
"Secondly—I had a mother. I say

"Secondly—I had a mother, I saw her go down into the dark valley where I am going, and she leaned on an unseen arm as calmly as a child goes to sleep on the breast of its mother. I know that was not a

"Thirdly—I have three motherless daughters—and he said it with tears in his eyes—"they have no protector but myself. I would rather kill them than leave them in this sinful world, if you bolt out from it all the teachings of the gospel."

From New Hamburg,

It has been noticed that William Essner, who usually takes things slow and easy, moves about quite lively now and seems to have something on his mind. Twin girls at his house may explain the change.

Miss Minnie Auch, who has been in

The approaching marriage of Louis Dohogne, of Kelso, and Miss Coena Heisserer was announced during Sun-

day's high mass. Mrs. Charles Ressell was the gue of Mrs. Schoen during the week. Mrs. Chas. Schlitt is reported to be very sick.

'ROUND-ABOUT.

Even the Penvine was "snowed in" Wednesday. On the morning trip she jumped the track just below the she jumped the track just below the cape and didn't get down, and in the demolished the register and found afternoon she tried it again and it only one dollar. Sunday morning took her an hour to get up courage to leave the depot. She passed the Benton station after 5 o clock, and

just going up to see Brown on im-portant political business."

When a man tells you that he will do anything in the world for you, he means about as much as the candidate who says his ambition is to serve the dear people,

This is tough weather on stock that is not well sheltered. The ground is covered with sleet, and it is so slick that only rough shod horses can travel.

When a neighbor claimed he could not sleep well after doing anything wrong, Will Reeder was mean enough toask "if he had had a nap in twenty

Dr. S. J. Wade had business at the Cape Tuesday and found himself "snow bound" Wednesday, but got

Bloomfield was visited by another destructive fire last week. The buildings destroyed were frame.

of education are cordially invited to the Kicken. No patent medicine rot to make you bilious.

A cobler is very much like a min-

ister of the gospel, in that he is a mender of soles. Clarence Banders, of Kelso, was in

Benton Sunday, trying to locate a strayed mare.

About all the use the world has for a dude is that he makes a good cigarette holder.

Our mill is running and can now accommodate customers for flour

Charley Kirkpatrick, of Charleston, was in Benton a short while Tuesday. Mrs. U. P. Haw has pneumonia and her condition is considered serious. Wade Anderson, from Commerce was here Thursday skeetin' around.

The regular term of county court will convene in Benton Monday. Will Mason, of Richwoods, was a in Morley the first of the week. The best way to shoot craps is to shoot the dice into the stove.

The bed-bug has no pedigree but he is often full-blooded. The Peavine is to have four new

W. C. Lambert had business Crowder Tuesday. Real Estate Transfers

M. Arnold and wife to Calvin Greet, 40 acres in 14-26-18...\$1000 J. W. Hobbs and wife to Andy Mets, jr., lots 12, 18, 14, blk 7, in Oran......

ELOPED TUESDAY NIGHT.

was too dangerous a task.

It is supposed that the couple were married at Charleston.

From Kelso,

Certainly we have a very few very bad people here. As a whole, no comhas better people than Kelso, yet we have a few parasites that are lawlessness and no stealing, but on The cash register was not locked, but Mose Drury and Young Schaefer went to Benton to see about getting blood hounds, but, after consulting Sheriff Henderson, it was decided that the

Austin, of Sikeston, at the Methodist church, Sikeston, on February 12th.
The contracting parties are well and favorably known throughout the county.

Leo Heisserer arrived home from Essex, Monday evening, somewhat "under the weather." Since smallers are well and Mr. Burger. In some way Mr. and Mrs. Burger discovered that Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had bound to the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had been supplied to the people is, they do not know which way to jump. If they vote the Republicant ticket they are "up against it" just as hard.

Henry Coffee and his son, John, claim that the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had been supplied to the people is they do not know which way to jump. If they vote the Republicant ticket they are "up against it" just as hard.

Henry Coffee and his son, John, claim that the South Missouri & Mr. Pfeffercorn had been supplied to the problem to Louis Pfeffercorn, Mrs. Theresa Kief-

considered beneficial. Our people still have hopes of the ing this way, and the latest report from the surveyors is that the road will be built.

The new cottage of Albert Mantz is about completed and—well, the rest of the story later.

Cotton Belt Mascot.

The Cotton Belt Railroad has a protege in the shape of a baby boy 2 months old. It was left on a train by a woman at Rector, Ark, who imton wrap, and for a while remained very quiet. Then it began to make faint sounds. Curious passengers A fine Jersey cow, belonging to James Norrid, fell on the sleet and broke her leg Thursday.

A cobles is a sounds. Curious passengers down the incline and into the river. The submerged car had to be removed before the transfer could land. system for a mascot.

Postponed Their Visit.

Prosecuting Attorney Kelly, regarding the coming of the railroad comdoners to investigate the advisability of ordering a union depot built at Morley, explains itself:

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., 1-28-'02. FRANK KELLY, Benton, Mo:

Appointment of inquiry for to-morrow at Morley postponed un-til further notice on account of sickness of two members of the Board. JOSEPH HARDING, Sec'y.

Don't Get Rich, Papa. The children of a certain family

during its prosperity, were left in the nursey in charge of servants. When adversity came the servants were discharged and the parents lived were discharged and the parents lived with the little ones. One evening, relates Success, when the father had returned home after a day of anxiety and business worry, his little girl clambered on his knee, and, twining her arms around his neck, said:

"Papa, don't get rich again. You did not come into the nursery when you were rich, but now we an come around you and get on your knee and kiss you. Don't get rich again, papa."

A man whose wealth iseeps him from his family, sleep, healthy recreation, or the time to enjoy the legitimate pleasures of life, is managed by

THE SOUTHEAST.

Neighboring Counties.

Sikeston Democrat: Some time ago while George Stull was on a huntyoung man who had been working for George, and who was in the hunting party, left, and going to George's home decamped with George's wife. They carried along with them the 12year-old daughter of George. They have been located in Arkansas, and prospecting near Gravel Hill, in Cape with warrants for them and is expected to return with them or the

Billings (Christian county) Times: We learn that two prominent citizens the Morley bank robbers and the of Billings will soon start a canary bird ranch or Griesemer's farm. They intend to fence in ten acres with fine wire, top and bottom, put in fifty thought that, perhaps, his daughter female birds to lay the eggs. The had become suddenly very ill and eggs will be hatched in an incubator, went out to see about her. All he They expect to hatch 300 at a time. The surveyors made a final survey and state that the new railroad will come in the near future. We predict 'twill be a good road, as the company behind it has wealth.

The surveyors made a final survey and state that the new railroad will take dinner at the parsonage Sunday, and it is needless to say that all were royally entertained and passed the time pleasantly.

The surveyors made a final survey and state that the new railroad will take dinner at the parsonage Sunday, and it is needless to say that all were royally entertained and passed the time pleasantly.

The Matha Matha Matha Survey and state that the new railroad will take dinner at the parsonage Sunday, and it is needless to say that all were royally entertained and passed the time pleasantly.

The Matha Matha Survey and survey and state that the new railroad will take dinner at the parsonage Sunday, and it is needless to say that all were royally entertained and passed the time pleasantly.

Pemiscot Press: The Sikeston Democrat asks Judge Fox to withdraw from the race for supreme judge, and it is most exceedingly likely that the Judge will do so in order to accommodate the aforesaid newspaper. Brown & Lindsay, and which bears Some Southeast Missouri papers in: the date of January 20, 1839. In it agine, seemingly, that the newspaper appeared the following items: an injury to our good name. For agine, seemingly, that the newspaper some time there has been very little is an all-powerful factor in matters of polities. Some men who have posopinion by the yard.

Perry County Republican: "Demreturned the next morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Phil. A. Hafner acknowledge receipt of an invitation to attend the marriage of Ben. F. Mar-

Wheat prospects are not at all lies, came down on the Str. Chester stood by the hardy yeomanry of the flattering. The December cold snap frosted the roots of quite a great deal of it, and the present sleet is not tween this city and St. Louis. The tween this city and St. Louis. The Memphis and St. Louis railroad com- this line so as to have it completed through this place on Wednesday by next December.

William Kingsley. He is said to be between 117 and 120 years old, was

Waterloo took place.

souri. Crops were a total failure and the natives subsist on acorns. When The following telegram received by India or Russia, our charitable organizations offer assistance.

Jackson Cash-Book: Three Missouri Congressmen made notable speeches at Washington this week—
Vandiver, Clark and DeArmond. All
Buchanan of a memorial to Congress
from James P. Espy, of Pennsylvania,
setting forth his claims to the discovspoke against the bill appropriating ery of a method of producing rain, money to establish a military bar, and asking their investigation of the racks in the Philippines.

Kennett Mail: They-the powers that be-are going to pension Mrs. McKinley, perhaps properly, and Mrs. Harrison, who married an ex-president. And there are many poor widows of plain soldiers in this coun-

try who are hungry. Two little girls were burned to death in Wright county last week. One was playing around the fireplace when her clothes caught fire, and the other was helping her mother wash out in the yard when her clothing eaught fire.

A Republican club was organised at Cape Girardeau and Bou Adams wasn't "in it." And now Ben calls them "Ben Deering Republicans."

Pemiscot Press: The Scott County Kieher, by Phil. Hafaer, is delivering some mighty hard kicks.

The Catholic parish at Silver Lake; in Perry county, seems to have had Doings and Happenings in fighting priest. He got his shot gun after some of his parishioners; but was disarmed before any harm was done. The priest left the place:

Marble Hill Press: Ben Knuckles was arrested at Blodgett a few days ing expedition near Little River, a ago, brought up and before Squire Bowman, plead guilty to a charge of disturbing the peace, and was given twenty days in jail.

The Southeast Missouri Mining and Prospecting Co., have purchased a diamond drill and will soon begin Constable Chas. Clark left this week county. An experienced mint? If in charge of the work.

> Eight prisoners escaped jail at Poplar Bluff last week. Two of the mert were suspected of having a hand he presumption is that they had help from the outside.

> E. L. Reeves, a familiare dealer at Caruthersville, was seriously shot by J. R. King, at Caruthersville, last week. King claims that Reeves insulted his wife.

A 14-year-old Dunklin county girl attempted suicide because her mother refused to let her attend a party.

SIXTY-THREE YEARS AGO:

A Few Clippings From a Paper Published at Jackson in 1839.

Mr. H. A. Astholzhanded us a copy of the Sothern Advocate, a paper which was published at Jackson by

CONGRESS.-We have no late intelligence from that body. Though it has been in session nearly two months, we have heard from it but Saturday night the saloon of Drury Bros., was entered by some miscreants. They entered through the window, taking out the large glass. pers as late as the 11th of December last which had been only about seven weeks on the way. By the mail be-Perry County Republican: "Democracy's campaign has ever been honest government," and 'we're for the people and against capital.' In present leaders?" The trouble with prepare, and to get up a full house the people is, they do not know which to hear his promised display. Mr. bemocratic countycentral commerce has been ordered to meet at Benton today, Saturday, February 1. Just why this call is made so sudden, and in the midst of such miserable weather, is not stated. However, it is to be hoped that the committee will not go into "executive session," as did the committee of Stoddard county, and call separate primaries for the angular than the county and county and congressional of course, and the committee of Stoddard county, and call separate primaries for the grippe.

Brown chairman of the grippe are went and favorably known throughout the contracting parties are went and favorably known throughout the contracting parties are went and favorably known throughout the county.

With Adam Burger, In some way Mr. and Mrs. Burger. In some way Mr. and Mrs. Burger discovered that Mr. Arkansas railroad company "beat Mr. and they have been burning had bought such articles as usually make up a wedding outfit, and it need surprise no one if something happens soon.

Brown contracting parties are went and favorably known throughout the county.

Leo Heisserer arrived home from Essex, Monday evening, somewhat "under the weather." Since smallpox and Mrs. Burger discovered that Mr. Richem and Mrs. Burger discovered that Mrs. Kiefer and the South Missouri & Arkansas railroad company "beat Mream," and they have been burning had bought such articles as usually make up a wedding outfit, and it needs surprise no one if something happens soon.

Brown the contracting parties are were highly entertained by dr. and Mrs. Burger discovered that Mr. Richem and Mrs. Burger discovered that Mr. Richem and Mrs. Burger discovered that Mrs. Kiefer and Mrs. Burger discovered

tween this city and St. Louis. The ment of these emigrating Indians, officials of the road mean to push consisting of about 1050, passed last. Like several other detachments that have proceeded them, they are Stoddard county claims the oldest generally poor, badly clad and excitizen in Missouri in the person of ceedingly dissipated. Owing to the inclemency of the season they have had many cases of sickness and death on their journey. They have great born in Ireland before the French difficulty on some parts of their route revolution, and was a seaman in the in procuring necessary provisions, in English navy when the battle of consequence of the drouth of last summer, which cut short the crops in many parts of the country. They While the transfer was approaching travel only a few miles a day, and madiately disappeared. The little the incline at Bird's Point, on Tues will not reach their new homes, about one was closely bindled up in a cotton wrap, and for a while remained day of last week, a box car broke the first of trail. There the first of April. There are two loose from the engine above and went other detachments, we are informed. down the incline and into the river. still beyond the Mississippi, one of The submerged car had to be re- which consists of some two thousand persons. The more intelligent and wealthy class of these Indians passed Much suffering is reported from the through our town early in the winter, Ozark country, in Southwest Mis- and will soon have reached their place of destination. They were well dressed and made a very genteel and the natives subsist on acorns. When respectable appearance, traveling such conditions are reported from altogether on horseback or in ear-

RAIN, RAIN, RAIN!-We publish on another page a grave debate that oc-curred in the Senate of the United States upon the presentation by Mr. same. A similar memorial from this gentleman was presented, we learn, to the Senate of Pennsylvania.

Fined Dead Man.

The following story of a former county magistrate was told last week at Towson':

The body of a man, who had been dead for some hours was found by the police, and the magistrate, acting as coroner, was notified. He made an investigation, and after finding a revolver and \$5.80 in the clothes of the dead man, decided it was a case for a magistrate and not for a coroner, and ordered that the body be brought before him at the station house. Here the magistrate charged the dead man with carrying concealed weapour and fined him in \$5.80, the amount of many found in his pocket. The revolver was and the body was turned and the body was turned and the body was turned. The body of a man, who had be